

On the 13th I flew back to London and on the 14th the eggs started hatching. In London I could not find any *Nasturtium* and so I decided to feed the larvae on the Kohl-Rabi or Stem-turnip (*Brassica caulorape*) which I found growing in my daughter's kitchen garden at Clapham Common. The larvae did very well on this foodplant, and by the 7th October most of them were fully grown; in fact a few stopped eating and were ready to pupate. Later that day I flew back to Malta, taking with me a couple of leaves of the foodplant to find handy on my arrival home.

I had 30 larvae, two of which I gave to a friend in London. On the 10th October, I had the first pupa and by the 13th I had ten pupae, greenish in colour. The remaining 18 larvae died as soon as I started feeding them on the Kohl-Rabi grown in Malta. I think this was probably due to the salinity of the water used for irrigation, or may be, they had developed a virus. The first butterfly, a perfect female, emerged on the 25th October, that is after 15 days; a male emerged on the 26th, but with one of the hindwings slightly deformed, and another male on the 27th, again with one wing deformed; three other males emerged badly deformed, and finally a perfect female emerged on the 30th; the remaining pupae went bad.

This was not a successful venture, but at least I got to know that besides *Nasturtium* (Fam., Geraniaceae), *P. cheiranthi* may also do well on Cruciferae just as *P. brassicae* L. does on *Nasturtium*. — A. THONY VALLETTA, F.R.E.S., 257 Msida Street, B'Kara, Malta, G.C.

MYTHIMNA VITELLINA HBN., EPIPHYAS POSTVITTANA WALKER AND LITHOPHANE LEAUTIERI BOISD. IN WINCHESTER IN 1977; AND A VERY EARLY IDAEA SERIATA SCHRANK IN 1978. — The tail-end of the 1977 season brought three more species of some interest to my Winchester (VC.11) m.v. trap. A ♂ *M. vitellina* (Delicate) in perfect condition came on the night of 9th/10th October. Although 1976 was a good year for this moth, there appear to have been much fewer captures in 1977.

On the night of 27th/28th October, an *E. postvittana* came to the trap. So far as I have ascertained, this is only the second time this Tortricoid has been found in Hampshire, the other one being recorded by Sadler in 1967 (cf. *Ent. Rec.*, 79: 87). There is some evidence that the species may have been breeding in my garden, as a further specimen (now in the possession of the Rev. Richard Dickson) was found dead, in a window of the house of Mr. George Else in Winchester. On the ledge of this window had been kept some *Coleus* plants, which had been raised from seed in my garden and upon which, in retrospect, it was remembered that some Tortricid-like spinnings had developed. The greenhouse in which the plants had been started, was a newly erected one used only for raising seeds, so there was no chance of accidental introduction of the species on plants.

I recorded the advent of *L. leautieri* (Blair's Shoulder-knot) in Winchester last year (in *Ent. Rec.*, 89: 23). Although it was only possible to run the trap on about two nights in 1977 when *leautieri* was likely to be about, five specimens appeared between 7th and 22nd October. These, together with last year's, would indicate that this species is now well established in the neighbourhood.

1978 has produced an extraordinarily early record for *I. seriata* (Small Dusty Wave). A recently emerged ♀ was found resting on a fence just inside V.C.11 on 7th January by Mr. M. J. Sterling. — Col. D. H. STERLING, "Tangmere", 2 Hampton Lane, Winchester, Hants., SO22 5LF.

ISLE OF MAN LEPIDOPTERA, 1977. — It may be worth reporting some of the lepidoptera recorded here in 1977, during the fortnight beginning on 20th June. *Bembecia muscaeformis* Esp. (Thrift Clearwing), was seen in good numbers at a spot on the west coast on 22nd June. I flushed a female *Setina irrorella* L. (Dew Moth), from grass on the clifftop at Niarbyl the same day, in bright sunshine. Quite a careful search of grassheads, etc., in the same place early one morning a few days later, failed to reveal any more. Dusking at sea campion at various rocky places seemed to indicate that *Hadena caesia* Borkh. (The Grey), is not a common species, and I netted one only.

It was interesting to find *Pyrausta sanguinalis* L.; two at Rue Point on 23rd June, and one at the Ayres on 3rd July. One specimen of the Cochylid, *Aethes cnicana* Westw. came to mercury vapour light at Ballaugh on 29th June; and a single *Narycia marginepunctella* Steph. (Tineidae), occurred at Ballaugh Curraghs on 30th June. Two other species, *Argyresthia conjugella* Z. and *A. laevigatella* H.-S. (Yponomeutidae) (both confirmed at BMNH), were taken singly at Tholt-y-Will Glen on 2nd July. These five species are not recorded in Chalmers-Hunt, *The Butterflies and Moths of the Isle of Man* (1970), and so may be new to Man.

Other of the smaller moths noted were: Pyralidae. *Aphomia sociella* L., Ballaugh; *Crambus pratellus* L., South Barrule; *Scoparia ambigualis* Treits., Ballaugh; *Pempelia dilutella* Hb., Rue Point; *Pyrausta cingulata* L., the Ayres. Cochylidae. *Agapeta hamana* L., Ballaugh. Tortricidae. *Cydia succedana* D. & S., Ballaugh; *Olethreutes lacunana* D. & S., South Barrule; *Aphelia viburnana* D. & S., South Barrule; *A. paleana* Hb., Ballaugh beach; *Pseudargyrotoza conwagana* F., Kirk Michael. Glyphipterygidae. *Glyphipteryx thrasonella* Scop., Ballaugh Curraghs. None of the larger moths, apart from those mentioned, or of the butterflies seen were of any particular interest, though a *Deilephila porcellus* L. (Small Elephant Hawk), which turned up at Ballaugh, is perhaps worth recording. — Dr. F. H. N. SMITH, "Turnstones", Perrancombe, Perranporth, Cornwall. [The discovery on the Isle of Man of the beautiful and exceedingly local Pyralid, *Pyrausta sanguinalis*, is of great interest. — J.M.C.-H.]